

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/758,333
Reply to Office Action dated November 09, 2004

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. The specification and claim 1 are hereby amended.

The Examiner noted that the preliminary amendment to the specification, filed June 22, 2004, was in improper format. The same amendment is shown with the addition of markings to show the changes made to the equation relative to that originally filed. Favorable reconsideration of the specification is requested.

Claims 1-4 were rejected as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicants traverse this rejection. Claim 1 is amended to correct the antecedent error noted by the Examiner. Favorable reconsideration of claims 1-4 is requested. Claims 2-4 depend from claim 1.

Claims 1-3 were rejected as being anticipated by Sano (US 4,984,646). Applicants traverse this rejection. Claim 1 requires that the steering apparatus has a "resistive force generation means for generating and imparting a steering resistive force to said steering operator member in accordance with the actual steered angle of the steerable road wheel detected by said detection means". Sano does not teach a resistive force that is a function of the actual steered angle of the steerable road wheel. Sano does not measure this angle. Rather Sano's resistive force is based only on a function of velocity, steering angle of the steering wheel θ_s , and yaw angle Ψ (see column 4, lines 27-38 and column 5, lines 30-33). In contrast, the current invention goes a step further than Sano's calculation of the resistive force (based on the offset between the steering wheel and the yaw angle) by calculating the resistive force based on a function of the

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offset and actual steered angle of the steerable road wheel (see page 11, lines 4-10). Favorable reconsideration of claims 1-3 is requested. Claims 2-3 depend from claim 1.

In view of the above, favorable reconsideration in the form of a notice of allowance is requested. Any questions regarding this communication can be directed to the undersigned attorney, Curtis B. Hamre, Reg. No. 29,165, at (612)336-4722.

Respectfully submitted,



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By

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Curtis B. Hamre".

Curtis B. Hamre
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CBH:MFE/krm